



ROUTINE

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DIST 2 MARCH 1973

1.5(c)

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1. ~~REDACTED~~ COMMENT: DURING THE WEEK OF 26 FEBRUARY SANTIAGO
NEWSPAPERS REPORTED A 26 FEBRUARY INCIDENT IN WHICH A NOB ATTACKED
A CHILEAN NATIONAL POLICE (CARABINERO) COMMISARIAT BUILDING IN
LLANQUIHUE IN THE SOUTH OF CHILE BECAUSE OF THE ARREST OF A
MEMBER OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR). THE MIR
MEMBER, SERGIO GOMEZ FLORES, WAS ARRESTED FOR PROVOKING
PUBLIC DISORDER AND INSULTING CARABINERO OFFICIALS DURING HIS

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE JUN 11 1999

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(classification) (disarm controls)

EFFORTS TO LEAD A COUNTERDEMONSTRATION AGAINST AN OPPOSITION POLITICAL PROGRAM. AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT, TEN CARABINERO OFFICIALS WERE WOUNDED, AND THEIR BUILDING WAS RANSACKED BEFORE THE CROWD WAS DISPERSED WITH TEAR GAS GRENADES.)

2.

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[REDACTED] INDICATED THAT GOMEZ WAS A KNOWN MIR LEADER. [REDACTED] THAT, BECAUSE GOMEZ WAS INSULTING TO THE CARABINEROS BEFORE AND DURING HIS DETENTION, HE WAS TREATED ROUGHLY BY THE CARABINEROS. GOMEZ USED THIS TREATMENT TO INCITE THE CROWD WAITING OUTSIDE THE CARABINERO COMMISSARIAT TO ATTACK. THE LOCAL COMMANDER, MAJOR RENE ASTORGA, ISSUED A SPECIFIC ORDER PROHIBITING THE USE OF FIREARMS FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN FIRING WARNING SHOTS INTO THE AIR. THE CROWD SUBSEQUENTLY ENTERED AND RANSACKED THE BUILDING, BEFORE IT WAS DISPERSED BY TEAR GAS. FIVE MEN, KNOWN BY CARABINEROS TO BE EXTREME LEFTISTS, WERE DETAINED.

3. THERE HAS BEEN A STRONG REACTION TO THE LLANQUIHUE INCIDENT AMONG MOST CARABINEROS IN SANTIAGO. MOST OF THE OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT A CONTINUING PRECEDENT OF

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(classification) (dissem controls)

PROHIBITIONS AGAINST ANY VIGOROUS CARABINERO ACTIONS IN THE
FACE OF DIRECT ATTACKS BY EXTREMIST GROUPS. MANY OFFICERS
FEEL THAT JOSE MARIA SEPULVEDA GALINDO, DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF THE CARABINEROS, SHOULD FORCEFULLY REQUEST THAT
THE CARABINEROS BE ALLOWED TO REACT FIRMLY AGAINST DIRECT
ATTACKS IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE CLEARLY TO EXTREMISTS THAT
VIOLENCE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. [REDACTED] COMMENT: DURING THE
PAST YEAR, CARABINEROS HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE CONVINCED OF THE
NEED FOR VIGOROUS POLICE ACTIONS, WHICH THEY FEEL WOULD IMPROVE
THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE CARABINEROS AS A CAPABLE POLICE FORCE
AND HENCE IMPROVE THEIR MORALE. HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH THE
CARABINEROS BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ACT MORE
FORCEFULLY, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT GENERAL SEPULVEDA WILL CONFRONT
GENERAL CARLOS PRATS OR ANYONE ELSE ON THIS ISSUE. THUS,
IF ORDERS FOR STRONG ACTION ARE FORTHCOMING, THEY WOULD
PROBABLY, HAVE TO COME DIRECTLY FROM GENERAL PRATS AND NOT AS
A DEMAND FROM SEPULVEDA. [REDACTED] COMMENT: ACCORDING TO
"EL MERCURIO," DIRECTOR GENERAL SEPULVEDA MET WITH GENERAL
PRATSON 23 FEBRUARY AND DISCUSS THE LLANQUIHUE AFFAIR.
FOLLOWING THE MEETING, SEPULVEDA COMMENTED THAT THE CARABINEROS

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(classification)

(dissem controls)

WOULD ACT FIRMLY IN THE FUTURE TO PUT DOWN VIOLENCE OF THIS
NATURE. SEPULVEDA ALSO. PRAISED THE ACTIONS BY THE CARABINEROS
IN LLANQUIHUE, SAYING THAT THEIR RESTRAINT PREVENTED A
MASSACRE FROM DEVELOPING.)

4. [REDACTED]

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